1:Beaglehole and Beaglehole E-5 (1934-5)1938 Pukapukans

227 284 **Circular hooks.** Circular pearl-shell hooks (*matau* and *wakavae*) are made with a barb (*wakatala*). Most of these hooks are as wide as they are high, but the size of the barb varies considerably (fig.39,*b*). In most hooks, the functional point is level with the lowest transverse turn of the snood lashing, directly opposite a point about 3/16 inch below the proximal end of the shank.

In one hook examined in the field, however, the inner curve of the hook was almost a perfect circle, the functional point being on a level with the top of the snood lashing and the proximal end of the shank. Another unusual feature observed on an old hook of this type was a pronounced terminal knob at the proximal end of the shank, separate from, and other than, the customary shank knob which was also cut on the outside of the shank.

a b

FIGURE 39.—One-piece shell hooks. *a*, U-shaped hook (*tape*): greatest length 2 inches, greatest width 1⅝ inches, point-shank clearance ⅜ inch; *b*, circular hook (*matau* or *wakavae*): greatest length 1⅝ inches, greatest width 1¼ inches, point-shank clearance ⅜ inch; barb (*wakatala*) markedly concave and beveled; snood thick two-ply sinnet cord fastened to shank with descending figure-of-eight turns. 1, shank; 2, shank knob; 3, bend; 4, point limb; 5, point; 6, snood; 7, snood lashings; 8, barb. (Reproduced from Macgregor, 20, fig. 4.)

226 176 There can be no doubt that the barbed hook is native to Pukapuka and antedates European influence. The first man to make the barbed hook is said to have been Te Upe, a man of Loto who lived in the reign of Maina, twelve generations ago. His name is mentioned in connection with barbed hooks in an old chant "Ulu taku tangi". Beasley (4, p. 34, pls. XLIX A and XLIX B) figures six hooks of this type apparently collected by Gill prior to 1877. Beasley attributes the hooks to "Pukapuka, Paumotu group", an evident mistake. The figured hooks range in height from 1⅛ to 2⅜ inches.

227 **Slanted-U hooks.** Slanted U-shaped hooks, large enough to be called *wakaolo* or *wakavae* and used for albecore fishing, have barbs. Small hooks of this type without barbs are called *tui wua* (fig.38,*b*) and are used to catch the smaller reef fish.

These hooks are much higher than they are wide. The point limb is short compared with the length of the shank and the functional point bends only slightly from the plane of the point limb. The barb runs from the point at a very acute angle making a large point-shank clearance (fig. 38,*b*, *c*).

Despite a superficial similarity in shape of the hook shown in figure 38,*c* to European fishhooks, informants were positive that this type of barbed fishhook was native